

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3 of the specification with the following paragraph:

Specifically, Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open (kokai) No. 57-50894 describes a method which uses filamentous fungi; both Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open (kokai) No. 7-184670 and International Publication WO96/40863 describe a method which uses *Actinomycetes*; and Japanese Patent No. 2672551 describes a method which uses recombinant *Actinomycetes*. ~~As is well known, however~~ However, since filamentous fungi and *Actinomycetes* grow with filamentous form by elongating hyphae in a culture broth, the viscosity of the culture in a fermentor increases. This often causes shortage of oxygen in the culture, and since the culture becomes heterogeneous, reaction efficiency tends to be reduced. In order to resolve this oxygen shortage and maintain homogeneousness of the culture, the agitation rate of the fermentor should be raised, but by raising the agitation rate, hyphae are sheared and activity of the microorganisms tends to decrease (Basic Fermentation Engineering (Hakko Kogaku no Kiso) p.169 - 190, P.F. Stansbury; A. Whitaker, Japan Scientific Societies Press (1988)).

Please replace the first full paragraph at page 10 of the specification with the following paragraph:

--(6) The process according to (1) above, wherein the microorganism is selected from those beionging to the genus *Mycobacterium*, *Corynebacterium*, *Brevibacterium*, *Rhodococcus*, *Gordona* *Gordonia*, *Arthrobacter*, *Micrococcus*, *Cellulomonas* and *Sphingomonas*--

Please replace the second full paragraph at page 10 of the specification with the following paragraph:

--(7) The process according to (1) above, wherein the microorganism is one selected from *Mycobacterium phlei*, *Mycobacterium smegmatis*, *Mycobacterium thermoresistibile*, *Mycobacterium neoaurum*, *Mycobacterium parafortuitum*, *Mycobacterium gilvum*, *Rhodococcus globerulus*, *Rhodococcus equi*, *Rhodococcus erythropolis*, *Rhodococcus rhodochrous*, *Rhodococcus rhodnii*, *Rhodococcus ruber*, *Rhodococcus coprophilus*, *Rhodococcus fascians*, *Gordonia* *Gordonia* *amarae*, *Gordonia* *Gordonia* *rubropertinctus*, *Gordonia* *Gordonia* *bronchialis*, *Gordonia* *Gordonia* *sputi*, *Gordonia* *Gordonia* *aichiensis*, *Gordonia* *Gordonia* *terrae*, *Corynebacterium glutamicum*, *Corynebacterium mycetoides*, *Corynebacterium variabile*, *Corynebacterium ammoniagenes*, *Arthrobacter crystallopoietes*, *Arthrobacter duodecadis*, *Arthrobacter ramosus*, *Arthrobacter sulfureus*, *Arthrobacter aurescens*, *Arthrobacter citreus*, *Arthrobacter globiformis*, *Brevibacterium acetylicum*, *Brevibacterium linens*, *Brevibacterium incertum*, *Brevibacterium iodinum*, *Micrococcus luteus*, *Micrococcus roseus*, *Cellulomonas cellulans*, *Cellulomonas cartae*, *Sphingomonas paucimobilis*, *Sphingomonas adhaesiva*, and *Sphingomonas terrae*--.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 10 and 11 of the specification with the following paragraph:

--(8) The process according to (1) above, wherein the microorganism is one selected from *Mycobacterium phlei* JCM5865, *Mycobacterium smegmatis* JCM5866, *Mycobacterium thermoresistibile* JCM6362, *Mycobacterium neoaurum* JCM6365, *Mycobacterium parafortuitum* JCM6367, *Mycobacterium gilvum* JCM6395, *Rhodococcus globerulus* ATCC25714, *Rhodococcus equi* ATCC21387, *Rhodococcus equi* ATCC7005, *Rhodococcus erythropolis* ATCC4277, *Rhodococcus rhodochrous* ATCC21430, *Rhodococcus rhodochrous* ATCC13808, *Rhodococcus rhodnii* ATCC35071, *Rhodococcus ruber* JCM3205, *Rhodococcus coprophilus* ATCC29080, *Rhodococcus fascians* ATCC12974, *Rhodococcus fascians* ATCC35014, *Gordonia Gordonia amarae* ATCC27808, *Gordonia Gordonia rubropertinctus* IFM-33, *Gordonia Gordonia rubropertinctus* ATCC14352, *Gordonia Gordonia bronchialis* ATCC25592, *Gordonia Gordonia sputi* ATCC29627, *Gordonia Gordonia aichiensis* ATCC33611, *Gordonia Gordonia terrae* ATCC25594, *Corynebacterium glutamicum* ATCC13032, *Corynebacterium glutamicum* ATCC14020, *Corynebacterium glutamicum* ATCC19240, *Corynebacterium mycetoides* ATCC21134, *Corynebacterium variabilis* ATCC15753, *Corynebacterium ammoniagenes* ATCC6872, *Arthrobacter crystallopoietes* ATCC15481, *Arthrobacter duodecadis* ATCC13347, *Arthrobacter ramosus* ATCC13727, *Arthrobacter sulfureus* ATCC19098, *Arthrobacter aurescens* ATCC13344, *Arthrobacter citreus* ATCC11624, *Arthrobacter globiformis* ATCC8010, *Brevibacterium acetylicum* ATCC953, *Brevibacterium linens* ATCC19391, *Brevibacterium linens*

ATCC9172, *Brevibacterium incertum* ATCC8363, *Brevibacterium iodinum* IFO3558, *Micrococcus luteus* ATCC4698, *Micrococcus roseus* ATCC186, *Cellulomonas cellulans* ATCC15921, *Cellulomonas cartae* ATCC21681, *Sphingomonas paucimobilis* ATCC29837, *Sphingomonas adhaesiva* JCM7370, and *Sphingomonas terrae* ATCC15098.--

Please replace the first full paragraph at page 11 of the specification with the following paragraph:

--(9) The process according to (1) above, wherein the microorganism is *Gordonia Gordonia* sp. ATCC19067.--

Please replace the seventh full paragraph at page 12 of the specification with the following paragraph:

--Examples of the above microorganism include microorganisms selected from the genus *Mycobacterium*, *Corynebacterium*, *Brevibacterium*, *Rhodococcus*, *Gordonia Gordonia*, *Arthrobacter*, *Micrococcus*, *Cellulomonas* and *Sphingomonas*.--

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 12 and 13 of the specification with the following paragraph:

--Specific examples include microorganisms selected from *Mycobacterium phlei*, *Mycobacterium smegmatis*, *Mycobacterium thermoresistibile*, *Mycobacterium neoaurum*, *Mycobacterium parafortuitum*, *Mycobacterium gilvum*, *Rhodococcus globerulus*,

Rhodococcus equi, *Rhodococcus erythropolis*, *Rhodococcus rhodochrous*, *Rhodococcus rhodnii*, *Rhodococcus ruber*, *Rhodococcus coprophilus*, *Rhodococcus fascians*, *Gordona Gordonia amarae*, *Gordona Gordonia rubropertinctus*, *Gordona Gordonia bronchialis*, *Gordona Gordonia sputi*, *Gordona Gordonia aichiensis*, *Gordona Gordonia terrae*, *Corynebacterium glutamicum*, *Corynebacterium mycetoides*, *Corynebacterium variabilis*, *Corynebacterium ammoniagenes*, *Arthrobacter crystallopoietes*, *Arthrobacter duodecadis*, *Arthrobacter ramosus*, *Arthrobacter sulfureus*, *Arthrobacter aurescens*, *Arthrobacter citreus*, *Arthrobacter globiformis*, *Brevibacterium acetylicum*, *Brevibacterium linens*, *Brevibacterium incertum*, *Brevibacterium iodinum*, *Micrococcus luteus*, *Micrococcus roseus*, *Cellulomonas cellulans*, *Cellulomonas cartae*, *Sphingomonas paucimobilis*, *Sphingomonas adhaesiva*, and *Sphingomonas terrae*.--

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 13 and 14 of the specification with the following paragraph:

--More specifically, examples include *Mycobacterium phlei* JCM5865, *Mycobacterium smegmatis* JCM5866, *Mycobacterium thermoresistibile* JCM6362, *Mycobacterium neoaurum* JCM6365, *Mycobacterium parafortuitum* JCM6367, *Mycobacterium gilvum* JCM6395, *Rhodococcus globerulus* ATCC25714, *Rhodococcus equi* ATCC21387, *Rhodococcus equi* ATCC7005, *Rhodococcus erythropolis* ATCC4277, *Rhodococcus rhodochrous* ATCC21430, *Rhodococcus rhodochrous* ATCC13808, *Rhodococcus rhodnii* ATCC35071, *Rhodococcus ruber* JCM3205, *Rhodococcus coprophilus* ATCC29080, *Rhodococcus fascians* ATCC12974, *Rhodococcus fascians*

ATCC35014, *Gordona* *Gordonia* *amarae* ATCC27808, *Gordona* *Gordonia* *rubropertinctus* IFM-33, *Gordona* *Gordonia* *rubropertinctus* ATCC14352, *Gordona* *Gordonia* *bronchialis* ATCC25592, *Gordona* *Gordonia* *sputi* ATCC29627, *Gordona* *Gordonia* *aichiensis* ATCC33611, *Gordona* *Gordonia* *terrae* ATCC25594, *Corynebacterium glutamicum* ATCC13032, *Corynebacterium glutamicum* ATCC14020, *Corynebacterium glutamicum* ATCC19240, *Corynebacterium mycetoides* ATCC21134, *Corynebacterium variabilis* ATCC15753, *Corynebacterium ammoniagenes* ATCC6872, *Arthrobacter crystallopoiates* ATCC15481, *Arthrobacter duodecadis* ATCC13347, *Arthrobacter ramosus* ATCC13727, *Arthrobacter sulfureus* ATCC19098, *Arthrobacter aurescens* ATCC13344, *Arthrobacter citreus* ATCC11624, *Arthrobacter globiformis* ATCC8010, *Brevibacterium acetylicum* ATCC953, *Brevibacterium linens* ATCC19391, *Brevibacterium linens* ATCC9172, *Brevibacterium incertum* ATCC8363, *Brevibacterium iodinum* IFO3558, *Micrococcus luteus* ATCC4698, *Micrococcus roseus* ATCC186, *Cellulomonas cellulans* ATCC15921, *Cellulomonas cartae* ATCC21681, *Sphingomonas paucimobilis* ATCC29837, *Sphingomonas adhaesiva* JCM7370, *Sphingomonas terrae* ATCC15098 and *Gordona* *Gordonia* sp. ATCC19067.--